7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Md. 21701
9/12/89

Mr. Nelson Lichtenstein
History Department
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Va.

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein,

You won't recognize it as such but this address is of the house in which you grew up. I think you returned once when you were at Berkeley.

The current Nation identifies you as the editor of essays in the history of the auto-workers union.

If you are or know of others who could be interested in this subject, specifically and generally, I have what might be of interest or value.

Back in the 1930s I was first an investigator for and then the editor of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, also know as the Rights of Labor committee. It was a subcommittee of the committe then of Education and Labor.

We held extensive hearings on the auto industry. I conducted some of the earlier investigations related to auto and rubber and then edited then, among others.

I have those hearings and they will, along with all my records, be deposited at Hood College. And I still have many recollections. So does and ever older surviving committee staff member. Hood and Wisconsin (Stevens Point) have talked about doing oral histories but they all stay to busy and have done none.

I knew some of those more prominently involved in those struggles.

Our hearings covered many major industries and situations. These include the San Fransciso waterfront struggles a book on which is reviewed by Maurice Isserman in the same issue. His uncle, Abe, a fine labor lawyer who was disbarred in the McCarthy era, was a friend.

Among the other major hearings we held - and remember, we took testimony from both sides, including corporate big-shots, and used sunpoenaes - are those of steel including the Memorial Day Massacres, coal, including Harlan County, metal trades, oil and others.

These hearings are a valuable and almost unused source. My copies are bound in multivolume books and are bulky but they can be copied, I am sure. If anyone has any interest in them.

We also took testimony from the then more prominent labor-spy outfits. I wrote the brief for the first of these. That means I prepared the questions the Senators would ask and attached the documents that would be used in the questioning. These are included in the appendices as published.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg